

Pension Scheme Cyber Resilience

Aon Cyber Attack Simulation Exercise ("War Game")

The risk of cyber-attacks on pension schemes, their advisers and their sponsors is increasing.

A popular and effective way to plan for such an attack is by running a cyber-attack simulation, or "war game" in Trustee and Company meetings.

A war game typically starts with the Trustees or Company being given a cyber-attack scenario such as a data breach, a loss of assets, or a critical system failure. Over the course of the session, the group plays out the scenario and discusses the consequences. As the discussion progresses, more information is gradually made available, mirroring what would happen in practice. That information generates challenges and discussion across a range of areas.

These exercises are interactive, sometimes hectic and often stressful. But they are also enjoyable and helpful. They help schemes to understand what it is like to be a victim of a cyber-attack and consider their response in a simulated and therefore low-risk environment.

The real aim, however, is not to just increase understanding but to make improvements. A well-run war game will make the theory come alive, and generates discussion that leads to real actions, such as changes to risk assessments, security arrangements or incident response plans. Those in turn reduce the exposure of the pension scheme to a cyber-attack, and ensure they are better able to deal with the consequences if one does happen.

"The use of roleplay brought out all the issues and gave great cause for thought..."

"Best cyber session I've been to"

Contact us

Aon offers war games as a standalone session which generally last 90 minutes or as part of a half-day cyber workshop. Please speak to your usual Aon contact or one of the team if you would like to know more about how we can support your scheme with understanding, protecting and responding to cyber threats.

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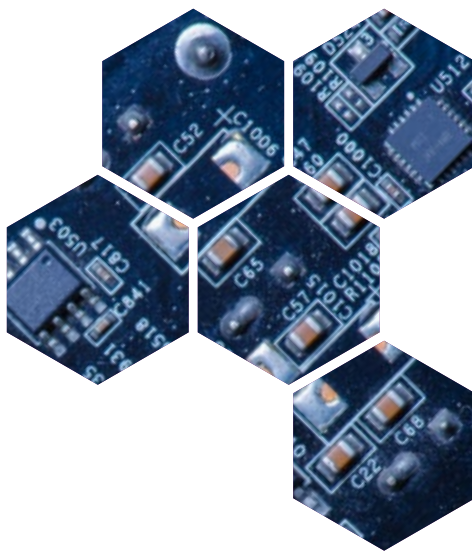
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